to help the Small Scale, Agro and Rural Industries become globally competitive. These include special focus on areas such as technology upgradation, infrastructure assistance through cluster approach, timely availability of credit, adoption of modem management practices, reimbursement upto Rs. 75,000/- for obtaining ISO-9000 certification, use of electronic infrastructure and other IT applications, marketing and timely information dissemination, including sensitization to the emerging challenges of trade liberalization.

(b) Financial assistance is provided to Small Scale, Agro and Rural Industries for participation and display of products at selected international trade fairs/exhibitions.

(c) Yes, Sir. Training programmes on packaging for export are organised to acquaint the Small Scale Sector exporters of the latest packaging standards, techniques etc. The National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) extends assistance to Small Scale Sector for procurement of raw materials.

Italian Model to Raise Credit

3403. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister had recently discussed, during visit to Italy, the application of Italian model of credit so that the entrepreneur gets loan without collateral evidence and with comparative ease;

(b) if so, what are the result and by when the new model of credit would apply to our small scale and rural industries;

(c) whether the financial crunches being faced by Forazabad Glass Industries in Uttar Pradesh which are on the verge of closure, were also discussed; and

(d) if so, the details of interaction and immediate steps being taken to save them from closure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government has launched a Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme for Small Scale Industries (CGFSI). The Scheme is being implemented by aTrust jointly constituted by the Government of India and Small Industries Development

Bank of India (SIDBI). To being with, a corpus of Rs. 125 crores is being created of which Rs. 100 crores would be contributed by the Government of India and Rs. 25 crores by SIDBI.

Under the Scheme, guarantee will be provided for 75% of the individual loans (terms loan as well as working capital) upto Rs. 10 lakhs extended by the commercial banks and well performing regional rural banks to small scale industrial units without collaterals, including third party guarantees.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Infrastructure and technology fund for SSI

3404. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to set up adequate infrastructure fund and technology fund for the small scale sector to help States create and upgrade infrastructure for SSIs;

(b) if so, the details of the funds to be provided for modernisation of SSIs; and

(c) the action taken to ensure that 50 per cent development scheme of infrastructure is at rural backward areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) Setting up of Infrastructure Fund and Technology Fund for the small scale sector is under the consideration of the Government.

SSI for E-Commerce

3405. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have, so far, formulated any comprehensive plan for preparing Small Scale Industries for "E-Commerce" with appropriate infrastructure support;